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VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

WITH THE FRESHEST ADVICES, BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTICK.

IN CIVITATE LIBERA LINGUAM MENTEMQUE LIBERAS ESSE DEBERE.----*Suet.* in TIB. S. 28.

PRINTED by JOHN DIXON And WILLIAM HUNTER.

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For the VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

The MAKING *of* BAY SALT.

LOW marſhy grounds, diſpoſed by nature for the reception of the ſea water, when the tide ſwells, and provided with banks and ſluices to retain the ſame, they call *ſalt marſhes*. Theſe ſalt marſhes, the bottoms whereof they ram with great care, are divided into ſquare pits or baſons, ſeparated by little dikes; and into theſe baſons, when the ſeaſon is at hand, they let in the ſea water. The ſalt ſeaſon is from the middle of *May* to the end of *Auguſt*. The water is admitted to the height of about ſix inches, after having firſt let it reſt, expoſed to the ſun for two or three days, in large reſervoirs without the works, that it may come in lukewarm. The water being admitted, the ſluices are ſhut, and the reſt of the work is left to wind and ſun. The ſurface of the water being ſtruck, and agitated with the direct rays of that luminary, thickens at firſt imperceptibly, and becomes at length covered over with a ſlight cruſt; which, continuing to harden, is wholly converted into ſalt. The water in this ſtate is ſo hot that the hand cannot be put into it without ſcalding. When the ſalt has received its full coction, they break the cruſt with a pole, upon which it ſinks to the bottom; whence, being dragged out again, they leave it in heaps about the pit, to complete its drying, covering it over with ſtraw or ruſhes, to ſecure it from the rain.

Eight, ten, or at moſt fifteen days, having thus completed the cryſtallization, they open the ſluices, when the tide riſes, for a freſh ſtock; and thus, alternately, while the ſeaſon holds.

This bay ſalt is refined into white ſalt, by boiling it in large flat caldrons, which not only leſſens its acrimony, and alters its colour, but is alſo found to increaſe the quantity.

The lower parts of this county, conſiſting of level and marſhy grounds, ſeem properly adapted for making this ſalt; inſomuch, that in the hot ſummer months white ſalt is naturally formed on the marſh graſs, and has been occaſionally ſtripped off by the inhabitants, for preſent uſe, in their fiſhing parties.

Along the ſhores alſo a ſtrong ſtiff clay abounds, doubtleſs very proper for laying the bottoms and ſides of the pits. The coction of the ſalt will be done in leſs time in this climate, becauſe hotter than that which requires the time mentioned above.

Here then every requiſite for procuring this article is amply provided on the part of nature: Human induſtry is only wanting to manufacture large quantities thereof, in the eaſieſt and cheapeſt manner.

POQUOSON, *York county*, PLUS ULTRA.
January 18, 1776.

Meſſ. DIXON & HUNTER,

THE committee of Hanover county having underſtood, that reports hath been propagated reflecting on their conduct with regard to the ſteps taken by them to prevent diſorder and confuſion in the county, occaſioned by the probability of a ſcarcity of ſalt; and, that the public may be ſatisfied as to the rectitude of their conduct, they have directed me to deſire you will publiſh, in your next gazette, their proceedings relative thereto, hereunto annexed, which you will pleaſe to comply with. I am,

Your moſt humble ſervant,

WILLIAM BENTLEY, Clerk.

HANOVER *County*: *In* COMMITTEE, *December* 12, 1775.

WHEREAS it is repreſented to this committee, that ſeveral perſons have, of their own accord, gone about in a diſorderly manner to ſearch for ſalt, and have taken the ſame where it could not be well ſpared; and this committee taking under their conſideration the above alarm occaſioned by the ſcarcity thereof, and being willing and deſirous, as far as in their power, to preſerve peace and good order, and to prevent riots and tumults:

Reſolved, therefore, that upon application being made to any three or more of this committee, that they will ſearch all ſuſpected places within this county, in the moſt decent and reſpectful manner; and if they ſhall find more than is ſufficient for a perſon's own uſe, they will do therein as to them ſhall ſeem beſt and expedient, and report the ſame to this committee. And if any perſon or perſons whatſoever, within their juriſdiction, ſhall preſume, or offer, without the authority aforeſaid, to go about to ſearch for ſalt at any public or private places, that this committee will uſe their utmoſt endeavours to ſuppreſs the ſame, by ſuch ways and means as they ſhall think proper, and hold the perſons guilty thereof to the public for contempt of peace, juſtice, and good order; and that no perſons offending herein may plead ignorance for an excuſe,

Ordered, that the clerk of this committee do cauſe a copy of this order to be ſet up at every public place in this county, and be alſo publiſhed on ſome Lord's day at the ſeveral churches in the ſaid county, by the miniſters or readers thereof.

Signed, by order of the committee,

WILLIAM BENTLEY, Clerk.

To the PRINTERS.

GENTLEMEN,

IT is with great reluctance we are drawn into this publication: Had our enemies meditated their attacks againſt our perſons or property, we had been ſilent; but they have, in violation of truth, of the duties of ſociety, and of every principle of generoſity, practiſed very cruel and inſidious arts to deprive us of what is of much higher value—our characters as men, and the eſteem of our fellow citizens. They have reported us to our brethren as traitors to the American cauſe, and conſequently inimical to their deareſt and invaluable rights. We are accuſed of holding connexions with the avowed enemies to this greatly injured country.

It is therefore incumbent on us to challenge thoſe wicked men into open light, that we may have the opportunity of evincing our innocence to the world in the moſt public manner. In the interim, we ſet them at the utmoſt defiance, and are,

Yours, &c.

WEST AUGUSTA, } WILLIAM CRAWFORD.
Jan. 3, 1776. } JOHN STEPHENSON.

In PROVINCIAL CONGRESS, NEW YORK, *December* 21, 1775.

WHEREAS, on the 13th inſtant, on information that a number of diſaffected perſons in Queen's county had been ſupplied with arms and ammunition from on board the Aſia ſhip of war, and had been arraying themſelves in military manner, to oppoſe the meaſures taken by the United Colonies for the defence of their juſt rights and privileges, and thrown out many threatening expreſſions againſt ſundry perſons reſiding in that and the neighbouring counties: *It was reſolved*, by this Congreſs, as their opinion, that ſuch conduct is inimical to the common cauſe of the United Colonies, and ought not by any means to be ſuffered; but that meaſures ſhould be immediately taken, to put a ſtop to it: *And it was therefore ordered*, that the inhabitants of the ſaid county ſhould appear by a committee before this Congreſs, on Wedneſday then next, at ten o'clock in the morning, to give ſatisfaction in the premiſes, with which order the ſaid inhabitants of Queen's county have not complied. *And whereas* the perſons above-mentioned, and their adherents, have oppoſed the election of repreſentatives for that county in this Congreſs, on a poll opened for that purpoſe, whereby that county remains unrepreſented in this Congreſs. *And whereas* a prevailing party prevented the election of Delegates for the county of Richmond, at a late poll there opened for that purpoſe; by means whereof the ſaid county is not repreſented in this Congreſs. *And whereas* the poll liſt for Queen's county has been returned to this Congreſs, whereby the perſons oppoſing ſuch repreſentation as aforeſaid, and appearing to this Congreſs, to be inimical to the intereſt of the United Colonies, may be aſcertained:

Reſolved, firſt, that ſuch inimical perſons as aforeſaid have been guilty of a breach of the general aſſociation, and of an open contempt of the authority of this Congreſs, as effectually repreſenting the majority of the inhabitants of this colony.

Reſolved, ſecondly, that the inhabitants of the county of Richmond, by neglecting to elect repreſentatives in this Congreſs, have been guilty of a breach of the general aſſociation.

Reſolved, thirdly, that the committee of the ſaid county of Richmond do, and ſhall, within fifteen days after the publication hereof, return to this Congreſs, or the Committee of Safety, a liſt of the names of thoſe who oppoſe a repreſentation of the ſaid county in this Congreſs; to the end, that the delinquents againſt the common cauſe in that county may be aſcertained, and that, in default thereof, the whole county of Richmond be deemed delinquents.

Reſolved, fourthly, that the ſaid delinquents in the ſaid counties reſpectively, and each and every of them, be, and hereby are, entirely put out of the protection of this Congreſs.

Reſolved, fifthly, that all friendly and commercial intercourſe between the ſaid perſons ſo put reſpectively out of the protection of this Congreſs, and the other inhabitants of this colony, ought to be, and the ſame, as far as can be effected by the recommendation of this Congreſs, hereby is and ſhall continue to be totally interdicted, until further orders of this Congreſs, or the Committee of public Safety.

And to the end, that no perſons may plead ignorance of the aforeſaid reſolves, and this order, *It is ordered*, that the ſame together with a liſt of ſuch delinquents as aforeſaid in each of the ſaid counties reſpectively, be, without delay, printed and diſperſed in hand-bills, and inſerted in all the news-papers of this colony. A true copy from the minutes.

ROBERT BENSON, Sec'ry.

[*The names of the delinquents in Queen's county have already been publiſhed, and amount to about 730. Theſe are not one third of the inhabitants of ſaid county, and are chiefly of the meaner ſort of people, dependent upon, or under the influence of men, who, from intereſted views, or worſe motives, are inimical to the intereſts of their country.*]

NEWTOWN, Suſſex county, New Jerſey.

Laſt Thurſday about four hundred of the militia of this county, under the command of Col. Ephraim Martin, and Mark Thomſon, aſſembled, and proceeded in good order and regularity in queſt of *Tories*, a conſiderable number of whom (inhabitants of this county) had entered into a combination and agreement not to comply with any Congreſs meaſures: About forty, we hear, are taken, moſt of whom have recanted, ſigned the aſſociation, and profeſs themſelves true ſons of liberty, being fully convinced of their error; and that two or three, who remain incorrigible, are to be ſent to the Congreſs to be dealt with.

PHILADELPHIA, *Jan.* 2.

Extract of a letter from GERMANY, *Auguſt* 10, 1775.

ALL Germany is fixed in admiration, wonder, and amazement, at the firm, determined, heroic ſpirit of the brave Americans, and are exceedingly pleaſed with the undaunted oppoſition they make againſt the ſeveral attacks of the formidable arms of England employed to deprive them of their juſt rights to natural liberty, and to ſhackle them in chains of ſlavery and ſubjection ever after; and this will be the miſerable conſequence ſhould they ſubdue you by their fleets and armies.

"Great numbers of our Germans live in America, and they highly experience, in that happy country, the ſweets of freedom and liberty, and which they did not enjoy here under their petty arbitrary rulers; theſe men will exert every nerve in ſupport of the righteous cauſe of freedom, ſo ſweet to them. Their numerous friends and relations here are conſtantly and moſt ardently ſupplicating the great Divine Ruler of all events to interpoſe and aſſiſt you with the almighty arm, and to ſet at naught all the wicked enſlaving attempts of your enemies, but they hope you will not fold your arms, and depend altogether on the efficacy of your praying friends, but that you will make uſe of defenſive means, and they hope and believe that providence will be propitious to your cauſe, which you have already had an earneſt of, and that your oppreſſors may be diſcomfited. We wiſh that as England is going to hire foreign troops, in vain hope of ſubduing you (their own men becoming enervated and ſpiritleſs ſo ſoon as they tread American ſoil) that they could obtain Germans to be ſent on this errand; for in that caſe we foreſee the event would turn in your favour, as you have an extenſive country for Germans to cultivate, and no people love profitable labour better, or are better adapted for the purpoſe, which America has long experienced, and we know that they would ſoon drop their fire arms, and betake themſelves to the cultivation of lands. We think highly of the wiſdom of your American Congreſs, and of all their good regulations throughout that extenſive continent, and we cannot enough admire the decent, loyal, yet manly and ſpirited language contained in all their petitions and ſupplications to the Throne, and cannot enough deteſt the indecent treatment and ſcornful reception they have met with from thoſe haughty men who guide all the movements of the nation.

"But we aſſure you that the uniſon chord has not been hit upon by your Congreſs, or all would long ere this have been well with America, and few would have known the true cauſe of the army and fleet returning to England. Two or three hundred thouſand pounds, judiciouſly applied, would have wrought this miracle, and ſaved millions, which, for want of this knowledge, you are now expending in warlike preparations. France, Spain, Holland, and Germany have long been acquainted with this prudent ſecret, and have frequently adminiſtered this ſpecific with the wiſhed for ſucceſs. Money has removed mountains; it has turned the courſe of rapid rivers; it has built a barrier wall, to divide China from Tartary, of fifteen hundred miles in length, and ſurely it will influence the pliable yielding hearts of men. I hope this method will be adopted yet, it will never be unſeaſonable, for the Engliſh are as greedy and ravenous after money as a hungry wolf is after a fat ſheep; their Kings are not proof againſt its faſcinating charms, and we know that they have been bribed to the prejudice of England. Touch but Bute's palm, and all will be right; he is the arch fiend, and has all the imps at his command. We believe him to be a Jeſuit, and we know he is a blood relation of the baniſhed Stuart King, and we believe he has been long working ſchemes to bring in one of that family to be again King of England. May his ſchemes all fail, and may he be tranſformed, not into a pillar of ſalt, but into a man of ſtone, as a laſting infamous monument for poſterity to gaze upon."

Extract of a letter from DUBLIN, *dated September* 9.

"Lord Bute's plan is to humble the Americans. Three regiments of Roman Catholics are to be raiſed in Ireland to ſend to America, which has bred a great deal of diſturbance: But it is hoped the proteſtants will put a ſtop to it.

"It is reported that the Parliament will not liſten to the propoſals ſent to London from the Congreſs by Mr. Richard Penn, and that there are 30,000 troops to be in America before next ſpring, with a great fleet of ſhips. The 28th regiment is now at Corke for embarkation, two other regiments are under orders to ſail for Boſton from Gibraltar, and they are to be relieved there by troops from Honover. There is a great ſtagnation of trade here, and a great noiſe in England on account of the diſturbances in America. In Ireland we are moſtly in great hopes the Americans will ſtand out as long as poſſible, if not, they may depend on the ſevereſt of uſage from the Parliament of England."

In CONGRESS, *January* 2, 1776.

WHEREAS it has been repreſented to this Congreſs, that divers honeſt and well-meaning, but uninformed people in theſe colonies, have, by the art and addreſs of miniſterial agents, been deceived and drawn into erroneous opinions reſpecting the American cauſe, and the probable iſſue of the preſent conteſt:

Reſolved, that it be recommended to the different committees, and other friends to American liberty in the ſaid colonies, to treat all ſuch perſons with kindneſs and attention, to conſider them as the inhabitants of a country determined to be free, and to view their errors as proceeding rather from want of information than want of virtue or public ſpirit; to explain to them the origin, nature, and extent, of the preſent controverſy; to acquaint them with the fate of the numerous petitions preſented to his Majeſty, as well by Aſſemblies as by Congreſſes, for reconciliation and redreſs of grievances; and that the laſt from this Congreſs, humbly requeſting the ſignal favour of being heard, like all the others, has proved unſucceſsful; to unfold to them the various arts of Adminiſtration to enſnare and enſlave us, and the manner in which we have been cruelly driven to defend, by arms, thoſe very rights, liberties, and eſtates, which we and our forefathers had ſo long enjoyed, unmoleſted, in the reigns of his preſent Majeſty's *predeceſſors*. And it is hereby recommended to all Conventions and Aſſemblies in theſe colonies liberally to diſtribute among the people the proceedings of this and the former Congreſs, the late ſpeeches of the great patriots in both Houſes of Parliament relative to American grievances, and ſuch other pamphlets and papers as tend to elucidate the merits of the American cauſe; the Congreſs being fully perſuaded, that the more our right to the enjoyment of our ancient liberties and privileges is